

**VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 3, 2014**

Mayor Hammond called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Hammond then asked for a Moment of Silence to honor our Men and Women; Past and Present; for their Military Service to our Country. Fiscal Officer Hastings took roll call with the following members present: Mr. Shelton, Mr. Wissinger, Mr. Sadler, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Laxton and Ms. Evans. Solicitor Hess was in attendance. Engineer Grosse was absent.

Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sadler to approve the February 3, 2014 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

Ms. Evans made a motions, seconded by Mr. Laxton to approve the February 10, 2014 Special Council Meeting Minutes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

Administrative Reports:

- A. Mayor's Report – Nothing to report
- B. Village Engineer's Report – Nothing to report.
- C. Village Solicitor's Report – Nothing to report
- E. Village Administrator's Report – Nothing to report
- F. Fiscal Officer's Report – Fiscal Officer Hastings gave the following report. Fund Balances as of February 28, 2014 are as follows: General Fund \$ 800,096.07; Street Construction \$ 165,868.70; State Highway - \$ 13,529.49; Parks and Rec - \$ 2,873.57; Permissive Motor Vehicle - \$ 7,483.18; Housing Developments - \$ 10,176.07; Water Operating - \$ 1,683,608.19; Sewer Operating – \$ 1,519,198.98; Garbage Operating - \$ 16,731.29.

Legislative Reports

- A. Legislative Authority Reports
 - 1. Randy Shelton – Nothing to report
 - 2. Nicole Evans – Nothing to report
 - 3. Clarence Wissinger – Nothing to report
 - 4. David Sadler – Nothing to report
 - 5. Mark Geiger – Nothing to report
 - 6. Brad Laxton – Nothing to report

Mayor Hammond asked if there were any citizens who wanted to address Council. Mr. Scott O'Neil informed Council that he had talked to Jeff Sheets, Teays Valley Superintendent regarding why the schools were closed today. He said Mr. Sheets told him the Scioto Township and Commercial Point roads were in such terrible shape when he came to check the roads this morning. Mr. O'Neil said the superintendent rated the Village streets an "F" and Mr. O'Neil has asked for the streets to be safer and in better shape the next time. Mr. O'Neil said he had heard a lot of complaints today regarding the roads. Mr. O'Neil said he knew there was talk of lowering the income tax and wasn't sure what the Street budget numbers were. He said West Scioto Street between Main Street and West Alley was in need of being repaired. He didn't know if there was enough money in the budget to make the necessary repairs to this area.

At this time, Mayor Hammond reviewed the proposed changes in the Administrative Employee Pay Schedule. He said he recommended increasing the Fiscal Officer rate from \$ 42,000 to \$ 44,000 per year with 25% coming from the General Fund, 37.5% from the Water Fund and 37.5% from the Sewer Fund as well as increasing the Zoning Inspector position to \$ 3,000 per year. Mr. Wissinger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Laxton to approve the proposed changes of the Administrative Employee Guidelines. Ms. Evans wanted to clarify that this was just to approve the pay schedule only. She said the budget does include these changes. Mayor said the budget does include the changes, however Council has the control over these changes happening by approving the proposed budget. If the changes are not funded, they cannot be paid. Mr. Shelton asked why there was a pay range for all other positions except for these two that are being proposed. He asked if there has been any further thoughts on making these positions at a pay range as well. Mayor Hammond said he has not spoken with anyone since this was brought up the last time. He offered Council that option at tonight's meeting. He said a recommendation needed to be made and then voted on. Ms. Evans asked Mr. Shelton if he was wanting to make the Fiscal Officer range from \$ 42,000 - \$ 44,000 and the Zoning Inspector range from \$ 2,860 - \$ 3,000. Mr. Shelton said that was correct. Mr. Sadler asked about the Mayor and Village Administrator positions not being set up as a range amount either. Mayor Hammond said the Mayor position was voted on and could not be changed while in office. He said the Village Administrator position could be set up with a pay range. Mayor Hammond said it is Council's authority to do what they feel is best presently and moving forward.

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He said personally, he is good with whatever Council decides. Mayor Hammond reiterated the Council has the control by ways of funding the positions through the budget. At this time, a roll call vote was taken on the motion. Mr. Laxton – Yes, Mr. Geiger – Yes, Mr. Sadler – No, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Ms. Evans – No, Mr. Shelton – No. The vote ended in a tie. Mayor Hammond broke the tie with a No vote. The motion failed. Ms. Evans made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton to amend the Administrative Employee Pay Schedule to include a pay range for the Fiscal Officer position of \$ 42,000 - \$44,000 and the Zoning Inspector position of \$ 2,860 - \$ 3,000. Mr. Sadler asked if this would be the time to make a range for the Village Administrator position. Mr. Shelton asked if he needed to remove himself from the table. Solicitor Hess said he would like to look into this range a little further. Fiscal Officer Hastings said there was an Ordinance in place stating the rate of pay for the Village Administrator. Mr. Laxton – Yes, Mr. Geiger – Yes, Mr. Sadler – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Shelton – Yes. The motion passed.

Next, Mayor Hammond presented to Council a proposed change to the 2014 Council Rules. He explained that he would like to move the Citizens Comments on the agenda to right before the Additional Business. The reason for this proposed change is for expedience of our meetings. Mayor Hammond said he has had discussions with Ms. Shelton and Ms. Hastings and is looking for ways to improve the order of business. Mr. Laxton made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wissinger to approve the proposed change to Section 6.01 of the Council Rules, moving Citizens Comments to follow Legislation. Mr. Shelton asked how far back, has the agenda been set up the way it is now. Fiscal Officer Hastings said it has been this way for as long as she had been working for the Village, which was 7 years. Mr. Sadler said he had concerns if this change is made, about denying the citizen's the opportunity to make a comment or plea before we vote. If we make this change, it would mean that a citizen would make a comment one month, however not be answered or acted upon until the next month. Mayor Hammond said he had those same concerns and was thinking about taking the proposed change off the agenda tonight. He said he is good with it either way. He said that sometimes the citizen's comments part of the meetings got quite lengthy before any of the decision making part of the Council could be done. Mr. Shelton said there was discussion about recording names of people who wanted to speak during the meeting as well as setting a time limit for each person to address Council. He felt these were steps Council was taking to minimize the lengthy conversations. His concern is if we move the Citizens Comments to after the Legislation has been discussed and voted on, if emergency language is in place, the citizens would have no time to voice their concerns. Mayor Hammond said that was a good point that he hadn't considered. Mr. Shelton said we try not to use the emergency language, however it is necessary sometimes. Solicitor Hess said since Council has a motion and a second, a vote was needed at this time. Mr. Laxton – No, Mr. Geiger – No, Mr. Sadler – No, Mr. Wissinger – No, Ms. Evans – No, Mr. Shelton – No.

Next, Mayor Hammond said the Go-kart Association has done a tremendous job and he is very supportive of the event. Mayor Hammond said the event plan has been presented to Council in a timely fashion. He said there is one small change that he has asked for and would like to be able to approve the plan at the next Regular Council meeting. Mr. Albright informed Mayor Hammond and Council that they have decided to make it or break it this year. They are trying to bring in more karts to race. They have raised the purse to \$ 2,000 for each class. Mr. Albright would like to ask for a verbal commitment from Council so that they can move forward with getting their sponsors and other things taken care of. Mayor Hammond told Council that this event has gone as scheduled to the event plan for the last two years. He said once this small change is made and presented to Council there should not be a reason for it to not be approved. Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve the event plan, contingent upon the change in the "Security Personnel" section that Mayor Hammond has asked for. Solicitor Hess asked if the members of Council were aware of the small change that had been asked of the Association. At this time, Mr. Rob Adams handed out a document that listed the 2013 language under Security Personnel as well as the 2014 language under Security Personnel. Mr. Adams said the 2014 language would not be used and would be replaced to match the 2013 language. Therefore, no change from last year's language. Mr. Adams said he would get with Chief Jordan to make sure the number of officers needed would not change. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Shelton – Yes, Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Mr. Sadler – Yes, Mr. Geiger – Yes, Mr. Laxton – Yes. The motion passed.

Legislation: For third reading

Resolution 04-2014 – A RESOLUTION TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Geiger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shelton to approve and adopt Resolution 04-2014. Mr. Sadler asked if this was the same as how it was left at the COW meeting. Ms. Evans said yes. Mayor Hammond said now is the time to make any changes Council deems necessary. Mr. Shelton just wanted to clarify that money can be transferred at any time by resolution. Mayor Hammond made Council aware of some failures on West Scioto

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Street that would need to be repaired so money will be needed. A roll call vote was taken: Ms. Evans – Yes, Mr. Sadler – yes, Mr. Shelton – Yes, Mr. Geiger – Yes, Mr. Wissinger – Yes, Mr. Laxton – Yes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

At this time, Mr. Sadler informed Council that the stop sign at the intersection of St. Rt. 762 and W. Scioto St is not flashing. It will be checked out.

Mayor Hammond said that he had a meeting with Chief Jordan regarding signs. He said signs have been a topic of discussion since he came on board, which is good. Mayor Hammond said the responsibility of checking the signs and making a list of what needs to be replaced and or repaired. Once a list has been created, Mayor Hammond and Village Administrator Shelton along with Chief Jordan will decide the next steps that will need to be taken. Everything that is sign related, needs to go through Chief Jordan. Mr. Shelton asked if there was a time table for the first report from Chief Jordan. Mayor Hammond said he did not set a time table. He made an assignment, but did not set a time table. Mayor Hammond said if he doesn't hear from Chief Jordan within a week or two, he will assume everything is up to snuff and nothing needs replaced or repaired. Mr. Shelton said in his opinion, the Police Department by looking at the monthly mileage report, is the best opportunity to see what is needed as far as signs, throughout the Village. Mayor Hammond feels he will hear something back from Chief Jordan within 2 weeks.

Mr. Wissinger asked if we had returned the performance bond on the paving contract. Fiscal Officer Hastings will check and report back to Mr. Wissinger.

Mr. Shelton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sadler to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned.

Joe Hammond, Mayor

Wendy L Hastings, Fiscal Officer